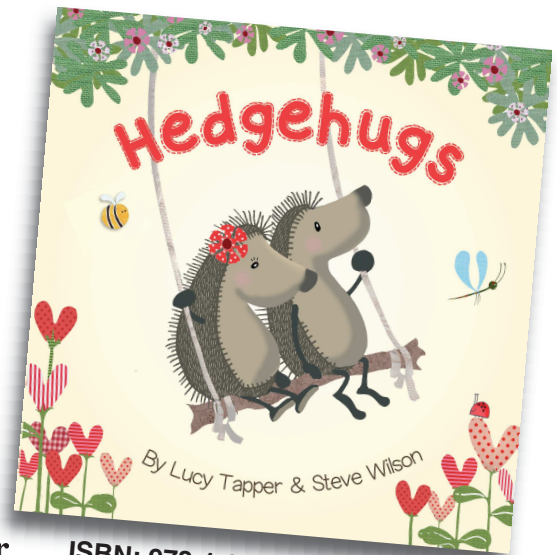


Hedgehugs shortlisted for Oscar's First Book Prize



Lucy Tapper and Steve Wilson's first picture book, *Hedgehugs*, has been shortlisted for the Evening Standard's children's book award- *Oscar's First Book Prize*.



The prize was launched last year in memory of Executive Editor James Ashton's son Oscar, who died at the age of 3 of an undetected heart condition. The award is sponsored by **Waitrose** and judged by Ashton, his wife and Oscar's

mother, Viveka Alvestrand, **former Pearson CEO**, Dame Marjorie Scardino, **Marketing Director of Waitrose**, Rupert Thomas and **actress Gillian Anderson** (*X Files*, *The Fall*, *Bleak House*).



Gillian Anderson will present the £5,000 cheque to the winners

Over 60 books were considered for the prize, including the *The Flying Bath* by **Julia Donaldson** and David Roberts, and the judges wittled them down to five final contestants. The other shortlisted titles are: *Dangerous* by Tim Warnes (Little Tiger Press), *This Book just ate my Dog* by Richard Byrne, (Oxford), *The Sea Tiger* by Victoria Turnbull (Templar) and *The Queen's Hat* by Steve Antony.

Steve Wilson said: 'Lucy and I are absolutely over the moon, just to be shortlisted is amazing. Fingers crossed!'

The winner will be announced at the Award's Night on **Thursday 7th May** in Holborn, London. The winner will receive a £5,000 cheque presented by Gillian Anderson.

More information :

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